

# PLANNER



DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES  
PLANNING COUNCIL

MARCH, 1977

## GOVERNOR NAMES NEW D.D. COUNCIL

In an executive order dated September 30, 1976, Governor Milton J. Shapp reconstituted the Developmental Disabilities Planning Council and later named 15 persons who will make up the new Council.

The Governor said his executive order came as a result of the changes in the Developmentally Disabled Assistance and Bill of Rights Act (P.L. 94-103) which amended substantially the earlier enacted statute under which the Pennsylvania Developmental Disabilities Planning and Advisory Council was established in 1971.

The governor noted that his action was taken to "further advance the policies of previous Executive Orders aimed at developing within the Commonwealth an effective and efficient system of services and advocacy for persons with developmental disabilities and to fulfill to the maximum extent practical the goals of the Developmentally Disabled Assistance and Bill of Rights Act."

### 15 Member Council

The new Developmental Disabilities Planning Council is composed of the Secretaries of Public Welfare, Education, Health and Labor and Industry and eleven other members including a representative of Pennsylvania county commissioners.

At least five of the Council members are persons with developmental disabilities or who qualify as consumers and five members are from groups or organizations concerned with persons who have developmental disabilities.

### Berger Heads Council

Arthur L. Berger, Esq. of Camp Hill, is the chairman of the new Developmental Disabilities Planning Council. Mr. Berger is associated with the law firm of McNees, Wallace and Nurick of Harrisburg and will serve for two years. He is a consumer member of the board.

Other consumer Council members are Joseph L. Cohen, Esq. of Harrisburg, Mrs. Judith Body of Trexlertown; Marvin White of Ebensburg; and Mrs. Catherine Gallagher of Ardmore.

Organizational representatives are Daniel Torisky of the National Society for Autistic Children, Monroeville; Carl Saylor, United Cerebral Palsy of Pennsylvania of Lewistown; George E. Orwig, II, Pennsylvania Division of the Epilepsy Foundation of America, Williamsport; Mrs. Mary Rita Hanley, Pennsylvania Association for Children with Learning Disabilities, Exton; and Mrs. Patricia Clapp, Pennsylvania Association for Retarded Citizens, Pittsburgh.

State agencies are represented by the following secretaries or their deputies: Frank S. Beal, Public Welfare; John C. Pittenger, Education; Leonard Bachman, M.D. Health; and Paul J. Smith, Labor and Industry.

Herbert K. Yingling, county commissioner of Mifflin Co., Lewistown, will represent the County Commissioners.

## FIRST JOINT PUBLICATION

This is the first issue of a joint newsletter combining the efforts of the Governor's Office for the Physically Handicapped and the Pennsylvania Developmental Disabilities Planning Council.

It combines features of both agencies, including circulation lists.

It is believed that this is the first approach of this kind in Pennsylvania whereby two agencies of the State government are combining their forces to produce a joint, efficient, professional newsletter.

The editors of both the Grand Stand, the voice of the Governor's Office for the Physically Handicapped and the Planner, the publication of the Developmental Disabilities Planning Council welcome your comments particularly as to how the joint newsletter can be improved, ideas for content, added circulation.



Ms. Lee Rubin (shown above) is the executive director of the Pennsylvania Developmental Disabilities Planning Council. She came to her position from Ohio where she had been administrator of the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council. Ms. Rubin has worked with the developmental disabilities program since its inception. She earned her degree MS from Yeshiva University, New York, her B.A. from the City University of New York. She has served as a consultant for many human resources organizations outside of Ohio. She was honored as an Outstanding Young Woman of America and with a Ford Foundation Scholarship.



## MEET THE CHAIRMAN

Arthur L. Berger of Camp Hill, the new Chairman of the Developmental Disabilities Planning Council is a former member of the DDPC having been first named to the Council on November 14, 1975.

Mr. Berger is an attorney with a Harrisburg firm and his reappointment to the Council is the latest in his list of public services.

Born in New York City, he is married and has three children. He has a BS from the University of Pennsylvania and an LLB from Harvard Law School after service in the U.S. Air Force for three years during World War II.

Mr. Berger was the winner of the Humanitarian of the Year Award of the Human Relations Council of Greater Harrisburg, is a fellow of the National Endowment for the Humanities and was the counsel for the Pennsylvania Association for Retarded Citizens. Mr. Berger also has been the vice-chairman of the Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania Bar Institute, Secretary of the American Civil Liberties Union of Pennsylvania and was a candidate for the U.S. Congress in 1970 and 1974. He has written articles for the Dickinson Law Review and the University of Pittsburgh Law Review.

## D.D.P.C. HAS ACTIVE MEETING

In an active meeting February 3 at the Hershey Motor Lodge, the Pennsylvania Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (DDPC) designated the Office for Human Resources (OHR) as the agency to administer developmental disabilities monies and moved further along on its Protection and Advocacy System.

One of the primary functions of the new Program Unit of the OHR will be the day-to-day fiscal administration for the Council. Heading the new Program Unit is Mrs. Bernadine J. Demchak, who formerly was the Grants Coordinator for the DDPC.

In agreeing to the transfer of responsibility, the OHR said it was its intent to assure that the Council had both visibility and control in the recommending of grantees to receive funds. At the same time, the Council recognized that the OHR had the legal responsibility for the proper disbursement of the DD discretionary funds.

Procedures for DD discretionary funds will basically be as follows: The OHR will solicit all proposals for DD discretionary grants; the DDPC will review all new and continuation proposals for the use of discretionary funds and will recommend to OHR those proposals to be funded; and all grant awards will be made in accordance with the objectives of the DD State Plan. Fiscal monitoring shall be the responsibility to the OHR: the evaluation

of the grant's effectiveness will remain the responsibility of the Council.

## Ad Hoc Advocacy Task Force

The Ad Hoc Advocacy Task Force reported its capability to develop a plan that will insure that protection and advocacy services are accessible to developmentally disabled persons.

It intends to meet at least twice more before submitting its plan to the DDPC and the Governor by its targeted date of April 1, 1977.

In an excerpt from the report, the Task Force said that it has agreed upon six underlying principles that should govern the System and that these principles would, in effect, be the program's mission statement.

## Other Council Action

Approved the award of \$80,000 in FY 1977 construction funds to Secure Rehabilitation and Vocational Enterprises, Inc. (SERVE) of Bradford County, Wysox, Pennsylvania and \$80,000 in construction funds to the Human Resources Center, Inc., Wayne County, Honesdale, Pennsylvania.

Took note of the fact that the Office for Human Resources was inviting public and private non-profit agencies and organizations to submit applications for \$509,200 in DD discretionary funds for (1) Deinstitutionalization/Community Alternatives; (2) Early Screening, Diagnosis and Evaluation; and (3) Special Demonstration Projects.

Approved the merger of the Council newsletter, the Planner, with the Grand Stand, the newsletter of the Governor's Committee for the Physically Handicapped. The newly merged publication will appear bi-monthly and include both news of the developmentally disabled and the physically handicapped with a circulation of 20,000.

Heard a report that the Arthur Young Project, "The Statewide Inventory and Analysis of Direct Service Providers and Administrative Support Units" was completed and ready for dissemination of information to interested parties.

Requested a staff report on regionalization by September, 1977.

Noted that the State Plan for FY 1978 would have to be approved by the Council by June 15 in order to meet the August 1, 1977 deadline set by the DDO, OHD, and DHEW.

Responded to a presentation on deinstitutionalization presented by Mel Knowlton, Director of Community Living Arrangements for the OMR, Department of Public Welfare.

## GRANT MONEY AVAILABLE

A total of \$509,200 in Developmental Disabilities grant monies was made available for Pennsylvania programs which would serve the developmental

disabilities population of the state.

The Governor's Office for Human Resources (OHR), which administers the money, invited public and private non-profit agencies and organizations to submit applications for projects to implement the objectives of the DD Council's State Plan for fiscal 1977.

The objectives and federal funds allocated for each are:

Deinstitutionalization and Community Alternatives: To provide deinstitutionalized persons with community based alternatives which are founded on the principles of normalization and which would include necessary community supportive services---\$209,200.

Early Screening, Diagnosis and Evaluation: To design and develop a model for implementation which would integrate early infant and pre-school children services in the areas of early screening, diagnosis and evaluation to insure quality services for the developmentally disabled---\$100,000.

Special demonstration projects: To develop special demonstration projects which would encourage the extension of community based services for pre-school severely multiply handicapped children and/or their families---\$200,000.

Deadline for submission of application is March 23, 1977.

## CONSTRUCTION FUNDS AWARDED

As a result of action approved at the regular Pennsylvania Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (DDPC) meeting at the Hershey Motor Lodge, February 3, two Pennsylvania facilities have been authorized \$160,000 in developmental disabilities Fiscal Year 1977 construction funds to be issued by the Governor's Office for Human Resources.

The grants went to:

\$80,000 to the Secure Rehabilitation and Vocational Enterprise, Inc. (Serve), Bradford County, Wysox, Pennsylvania, for construction of a new sheltered workshop which would increase its space from 2,650 to 8,000 square feet and serve a client population of 1,100. It is estimated this could increase contract productivity volume from \$25,000 to \$91,000.

\$80,000 to the Human Resources Center, Inc., Wayne County, Honesdale, Pennsylvania for a new sheltered workshop and a space increase from 8,240 to 13,440 square feet. The facilities serve an estimated 3,500 persons in Wayne, Susquehanna and Upper Lackawanna counties. The grant would provide a modern more accessible facility than the present whereby three vans are used to transport clients some 800 to 900 miles per week.

Both facilities will increase services to predominately rural areas of Pennsylvania.



## OBSERVATIONS OF ARTHUR YOUNG REPORT

Who are the individuals and organizations providing services to Pennsylvania's estimated 700,000 developmentally disabled?

A report prepared as a result of a survey by Arthur Young and Company provides the Pennsylvania Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (DDPC) with many of the answers to this question.

The DDPC is mandated under Public Law 94-103 (the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act) to plan, evaluate, and coordinate programs for the developmentally disabled in the State.

### Contract in 1974

The difficulty in learning where the DD programs were and where gaps existed led the DDPC to contract with Arthur Young and Company in 1974 to provide needed information for the Council's planning efforts.

Arthur Young and Company reported that approximately 3,800 organizations and several thousand individuals in Pennsylvania provide services to the developmentally disabled.

Among the observations in the report was the fact that human services in the state for developmentally disabled persons were "complex and disjointed" and not clearly defined. The lack of a formal, comprehensive referral mechanism was noted. There are multiple funding streams in which funds are filtered through no less than ten bureaus and offices within the Departments of Public Welfare, Education, Health, Labor and Industry, or the Governor's Office before these funds reach the local level. Also noted was a lack of uniformity in geographic areas which they serve.

Other observations included the dependence of the client on the local situation when disputes arise as to which agency is responsible for service; the lack of planning in local communities for deinstitutionalization; and a general lack of awareness among service providers about specific other providers serving the developmentally disabled.

### PROJECT SHARE

A two-year Project SHARE program on behalf of the developmentally disabled by the General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC) is now underway.

Objectives of the program are to volunteer in school programs with the developmentally disabled; serve as advocates for individuals and groups of



*ADVOCACY CONFERENCE. Michael Adams (left) advocacy liaison officer for the Pennsylvania Developmental Disability Planning Council conferred recently with Andrew Schneider, an attorney involved in the pilot program to provide legal services to mental patients at the Norristown (Pa.) hospital and the Norristown area. Both Adams and Schneider were formerly employed by the Drug and Alcohol Council in Harrisburg. The advocacy pilot project in Norristown is sponsored by the Commission on the Mentally Disabled of the American Bar Association (ABA) under a grant from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.*

developmentally disabled; promote adequate transportation for the DD population; promote recreation and leisure-time activities for the DD; and assist individual Councils in joint public education programs. The Pennsylvania Developmentally Disabilities Planning Council accepted the offer of Mrs. Fran Lopus, community education chairman of the Pennsylvania Federation of Women's Clubs to work with the Pennsylvania federation on behalf of developmentally disabled people in Pennsylvania. Specific programs will be announced in future editions. A member of the Council's staff will speak at the Federation's seminar at Penn State in July.

### MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

We of the Developmental Disabilities Planning Council begin this joint publication with the Governor's Committee for the Physically Disabled with great hopes for success, because of both the increased circulation and the improved efficiency which we hope will result. This also gives us the opportunity to indicate our belief that the common concern of all handicapped persons to attain their rightful place in society is greater than any differences which may exist among them.

We at the Developmental Disabilities Planning Council will be working on a number of matters over the next year or so which we think you will find of interest. We are charged by federal law to set up an advocacy system for all developmentally disabled persons in Pennsylvania. We have been charged by the Governor with setting up a regional organization. Deinstitutionalization is a major focus of our program activities. We hope to keep you abreast of what we are doing in all of these areas. We hope you will find our reports informative, candid, and exciting.

We need the support and council of all of you. Please give them to us. We hope to do a decent job with your help, with the help of the governmental agencies whose cooperation means so much and with the help of the developmentally disabled persons and their representatives whose welfare represents the only reason for our existence.

Sincerely,

Arthur L. Berger, Chairman



# RECREATION FOR HANDICAPPED INDIVIDUALS

by Viki S. Annand, Project Coordinator,  
103 Pearson Hall, Broad and Montgomery  
Streets, Philadelphia, Pa. 19122  
(215/787-1970)

The Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies of Temple University is developing a model for a "Coordinated Approach to Community Recreation Services for Multiply Handicapped Adults." The project, which is in its third year, is funded by HEW, Office of Human Development, Developmental Disabilities Office. The target population for this demonstration project is handicapped individuals in the Philadelphia area.

The goal of this project is "to develop a cooperative mechanism which is designed to include in meaningful social recreation experiences a target population of currently excluded multiply handicapped adults." The project is exploring methods for developing recreational services, coordinating services, and providing a continuum of services that help handicapped individuals move from dependent programs, into halfway supportive-type programs, and finally into independent functioning in community services. To accomplish this project goal, there are three objectives.

## Objective I: Community Delivery Mechanism

It was found that adequate recreational services to meet the needs of disabled individuals living in the community were not available in Philadelphia. To insure that increased opportunities for recreational experiences would be available to these individuals, the grant provided seed money in the form of mini-grants to both rehabilitation and recreation agencies to develop recreation programs for excluded adults. The mini-grant component encouraged different types of agencies to develop recreation services that meet different needs of handicapped individuals functioning at a variety of levels.

During the first year of the project, six agencies were awarded mini grants. This approach appeared to be so successful that during the second year funds were increased for this program and thirteen agencies were funded.

As another part of the mini-grant component, the Recreation and Leisure Studies Department of the University has developed a recreation lab program for handicapped persons in the community. This weekly program provides the opportunity for handicapped individuals to participate in swimming, bowling, archery, trampoline activities, arts and crafts, and dance and music activities. Students enrolled in courses in the department provide leadership for this program.

In another effort to increase

recreational opportunities for the handicapped, the project has developed an activity referral service that is available to both agencies and individuals in the community. This service provides individuals the opportunity to identify segregated or integrated recreational activities in which they are interested.

Other program components of objective I are leisure counseling and leisure education services. The project has trained two groups of client care workers at Woodhaven Center in leisure education in order that they might better prepare their residents to be responsible for their own leisure lifestyle.

## Objective II: Evaluation

It has long been recognized that recreation provides an opportunity for affecting the functional levels of individuals. Despite the fact that much programming for persons with disabilities has been directed toward such goals, this phenomenon has not adequately been documented. The mini-grant program offered the opportunity to collect data from a variety of programs to evaluate the effect of recreation on individual's social-interactive as well as vocational abilities.

To accomplish the task of evaluation, a three part assessment scale was initially developed. During the second year of the project, a total of fourteen behaviors were evaluated under the areas of task orientation, motivation, and socio-emotional. A pre and post evaluation were completed on program participants of agencies receiving mini-grants. The tool was then revised to measure nineteen behaviors.

## Objective III: Recreation

To insure that the recreational needs of handicapped individuals will be met, a Metropolitan Council on Recreation for the Disabled is being formed. This body will continue to function at the termination of the grant to insure that recreation opportunities for handicapped individuals in Philadelphia are expanded and to offer a mechanism for the coordination of such efforts.

## VRC GIVES FINAL REPORT

The DD Planning Council office has received the final report on a three-year study of employment practices involving epileptic consumers. The study was done by the Vocational Rehabilitation Center of Allegheny County, Pittsburgh, and was funded by DD discretionary funds through BVR.

This project explored placement problems that clients of epilepsy encounter in seeking competitive employment. The first study compared three placement techniques [two experimental (On-the-Job Training and

Transitional Employment) and one control condition (Standard Selective Placement)]. Sixty-one epileptics formed a final research sample. Demographic and psychometric test results were obtained from each subject. A Retrospective-Follow-up Survey of 65 rehabilitated epileptic clients was also completed. The second study addressed the issue of disclosure (epilepsy). An attitude survey of 202 employers toward epileptic workers was conducted. Guided Group Discussions and videotape simulation of an employment interview were used with 79 personnel representatives from 48 companies in metropolitan Pittsburgh.

Transitional Employment and Standard Selective Placement were found to be effective and efficient placement models. Analyses of personal and social factors showed statistically significant interactions for job performance, placement models, and test responses. The Retrospective Follow-up Survey demonstrated that "successful" employees disclosed their epileptic conditions less often than "unsuccessful" epileptics.

Epileptics were viewed negatively on six of 12 worker traits when compared to "other employees." Guided Group Discussions identified eight worker characteristics important in hiring. Videotape script analysis provided a measure of what, how, and when information about epilepsy should be disclosed during employment interviews.

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

Two new guides for community services for the disabled have recently been published by the United Cerebral Palsy Association, Inc.

"No Place Like Home," is a manual outlining several types of living arrangements such as group homes and adapted apartments, which foster the independence of teenagers and adults with cerebral palsy, and "Help at the Door," a home service manual, is designed to guide community agencies working with the disabled on how to initiate programs to provide professional assistance to the homebound disabled and their families. "No Place Like Home" is available for \$2.25 per copy and "Help at the Door" for \$2.00 per copy from United Cerebral Palsy Associations, Inc., 66 East 34th Street, New York, N.Y. 10016.

### PLANNER

Neale Clark  
Information Coordinator  
Bldg. 4, 2101 N. Front St.  
Harrisburg, PA 17110



# MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**March 1 - April 10 - Easter Seal Campaign**

**March 3, 1977**

State Task Force on Right to Education Meeting  
Health and Welfare Building  
Room 812  
Commonwealth Avenue & Forster Street  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

**March 3-4, 1977**

Pennsylvania Conference for Teachers and Supervisors of the Visually Handicapped, Seventh Annual Conference, Host Inn, Harrisburg.

Contact: Central Pennsylvania Special Education Resource Center  
5601 North Front Street  
Harrisburg, Pa. 17110

**March 4-5, 1977**

Intramurals, Recreation Sports, & Special Events Workshop, Central Michigan Univ., Mt. Pleasant, Michigan  
Contact: Carol L. Andrews  
Intramural Dept., 101 Finch  
Central Michigan University  
Mt. Pleasant, Michigan 48859

**March 7-9, 1977**

Three Day Seminar for Personnel Office Interviewers  
Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Center in Johnstown, Pa.

**March 9-12, 1977**

National Association for Children with Learning Disabilities, 14th International Conference, Washington, D.C.  
Contact: ACLD, 5225 Grace Street  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15346

**March 11, 1977**

Seventh Annual Film Festival on Exceptional Individuals, Hancock Auditorium, Univ. of S. Calif., Los Angeles  
Contact: Mr. Neil Goldstein  
Asst. Dir. of Instructional Technology  
University Affiliated Program  
Children's Hospital of Los Angeles  
Box 54700 Terminal Annex  
Los Angeles, Calif. 90054

**March 15, 1977 - 10:30 to 3:**

Governor's Committee for the Physically Handicapped  
Room 24  
Penna. Museum Bldg.  
Harrisburg, Penna.

**March 17-18, 1977**

First International Symposium on Adapted Physical Activity, Chateau Frontenac Hotel, Quebec City  
Contact: S.I.A.P.A.  
Centre de Readaptation du Quebec  
525 Boulevard Hamel  
Quebec, Canada G1M2S8

**March 18-19, 1977**

International Seminar on Therapeutic Ice Skating, Pennsylvania State University  
Keller Conference Center  
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802

## GRAND STAND

**John H. Snyder - Governor's Advocate  
for Physically Handicapped  
504 State Street Bldg.  
Harrisburg, PA 17101**

**March 18-20, 1977**

National Society for Autistic Children, Regional Conference, Cleveland, Ohio  
Contact: NSAC, 169 Tampa Avenue  
Albany, New York 12208

**March 23-24, 1977**

Mainstreaming Physical Activities and Recreation for Those With Special Needs  
Washington Plaza Hotel  
Seattle, Washington  
Contact: Grace D. Reynolds, Dir.  
Department of Special Services  
YMCA of Southwest Washington  
P.O. Box 698  
Longview, Washington 98632

**March 24, 1977**

Easter Seal Society COFFEE DAY

**March 24-26, 1977**

Midwest Symposium on Therapeutic Recreation  
Sheraton-Rock Island Motor Inn  
Rock Island, Illinois  
Contact: 1977 Midwest Symposium on Therapeutic Recreation  
351 Hearnes Multipurpose Building  
University of Missouri  
Columbia, Missouri 65201

**March 27, 28, 29, 30, 1977**

Penna. Recreation and Park Society & Therapeutic Recreation Society State Conference  
Hershey Convention Center  
Hershey, Penna.

**April 4-6, 1977**

Three Day Seminar for Personnel Office Interviewers  
Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Center in Johnstown, Pa.

**April 11-15, 1977**

Council for Exceptional Children, 55th Annual International Convention, Atlanta, Georgia  
Contact: CEC, 1920 Association Drive  
Reston, Virginia 22091

**April 13-16, 1977**

Eastern Psychological Association, Boston, Massachusetts  
Contact: Murray Benimoff, Department of Psychology  
Glassboro State College  
Glassboro, New Jersey 08028

**April 20, 1977 - 10:00 A.M.**

Governor's Committee for the Physically Handicapped  
Room 24  
Penna. Museum Bldg.  
Harrisburg, Penna.

**April 20-21, 1977**

Pennsylvania Human Services Forum  
Penn Harris Motor Inn  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania  
Contact: Committee on Services of Pennsylvania  
201 Locust Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17101 - (717) 238-7365

**April 20-23, 1977**

UCP Annual Conference  
Washington Hilton Hotel  
Washington, D.C.

**April 21, 1977**

State Task Force on Right to Education Meeting  
Berks County Special Education Center  
Antietam Valley Shopping Center  
3012 St. Lawrence Avenue  
Reading, Pennsylvania

**April 29 - May 1, 1977**

American Society for Adolescent Psychiatry, Annual Meeting, Toronto, Canada  
Contact: Mary D. Staples, 24 Green Valley Road  
Wallingford, Pennsylvania 19086

**May 2 - 7, 1977**

International Reading Association, Twenty-second Annual Convention, Miami Beach, Florida  
Contact: Charles Putney, International Reading Association  
800 Barksdale Road,  
Newark, Delaware 19711

**May 4-6, 1977**

White House Conference on Employment of the Handicapped  
Washington, D.C.  
Contact: John McGrath  
E164-A Labor and Industry Bldg.  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120  
(717) 787-6356

**May 9-11, 1977**

3-Day Seminar for Personnel Office Interviewers  
Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Center  
Johnstown, Pennsylvania

**May 9-11, 1977**

Second IEEE International Conference on Acoustics, Speech and Signal Processing, Hartford, Connecticut  
Contact: Harvey Silverman, IBM, T. J. Watson Research Center  
P.O. Box 218  
Yorktown Heights, New York 10598

**May 13-15, 1977**

Pennsylvania Wheelchair Games, Pittsburgh  
Contact: Pennsylvania Easter Seal Society  
Middletown, Pennsylvania 17057

**May 15-21, 1977**

NATIONAL HANDICAPPED AWARENESS WEEK

**May 18, 1977 - 10:00 A.M.**

Governor's Committee for the Physically Handicapped  
Room 24  
Penna. Museum Bldg.  
Harrisburg, Penna.

**May 23-27, 1977 (Note Change)**

White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals  
Washington, D.C. (see separate article).

**June 2, 1977**

State Task Force on Right to Education Meeting  
Health and Welfare Building - Room 812  
Commonwealth and Forster Streets  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

**June 6-8, 1977**

3-Day Seminar for Personnel Office Interviewers  
Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Center  
Johnstown, Pennsylvania

**June 9-11, 1977**

P.A.R.C. Convention  
Seven Springs Mountain Resort

**June 11, 1977**

Overbrook School for the Blind  
Annual Alumni Dinner Meeting at Overbrook  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania





*Lt. Gov. Ernest Kline challenges the participants at the Governor's Conference on Handicapped Individuals: "at this Conference you have discussed what ought to be done, but it is the manner in which you deal with attitudes in your communities that ultimately determines what will be done." At his right is Conference Co-Director Carl F. Odhner.*

## SSI PROGRAM

More senior citizens and blind and disabled persons will be eligible for benefits through the Federal Supplementary Security Income (SSI) program because of recent changes in the law, Welfare Secretary Frank S. Beal announced.

"In the past, many senior citizens, blind and disabled persons were not eligible to receive SSI benefits because they owned a home worth more than \$25,000. For many people who had no, or very limited income, this meant they were forced to sell their home in order to get money to live on," Beal noted.

"With inflation pushing up the market value of property, this restriction on SSI benefits especially threatened the home-owning capacity of senior citizens — many of whom had lived in their homes for decades.

The limit on assets such as savings, stocks and bonds remains \$1,500 for an individual and \$2,250 for a couple.

A person who has been denied the benefits in the past because he or she owned a home worth more than \$25,000 should reapply at the nearest Social Security Office.

The new amendments also make it possible for individuals who live in publicly operated community residences serving 16 or fewer persons, such as group homes for mentally retarded persons, to receive SSI benefits. It is hoped that this provision will upgrade the quality of group homes and residential facilities in the country.

The SSI program is administered through the Social Security Administration. In Pennsylvania, a state supplement is added to the Federal benefits, bringing the maximum payments to \$200.20 a month for an individual and \$300.50 for a couple. A person who is eligible for SSI is also eligible for health care benefits under the state's medical assistance program.

## "HIRE THE HANDICAPPED" POSTER CONTEST WINNER

*John McGrath, Exec. Sec.  
Gov.'s Committee on Employment of the Handicapped*

This year's winner of the Governor's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped Poster Contest was Miss Dianna Deaner, R. D. # 2, Somerset, Pennsylvania; a student at Somerset Area Senior High School in Somerset. Her poster will be sent to Washington, D.C. as Pennsylvania's official entry in the contest by the President's Committee. Bonds totaling \$575 were presented to the first five place winners in the State Contest.

Each year the Governor's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped conducts a Poster Contest on a theme related to "Hire the Handicapped — It's Good Business." The primary purpose of the contest is to make young people aware of the employment problems of our handicapped citizens and, hopefully, to instill in them a knowledge and interest that will make them more concerned citizens.

The contest begins in October and ends in January. It is conducted in various communities throughout the State by local Committees on Employment of the Handicapped. Prizes are awarded to the winners of these local contests and the first place winner in each community is sent to Harrisburg for judging in the State Contest. Normally 40 to 50 local committees participate and the total prizes for each contest amounts to approximately \$3,000. It is estimated that well over one hundred thousand high school students have participated in these contests since their inception over 25 years ago.

## RTTY—"CAPTIONED RADIO"

*The PA School for the Deaf*

*Philip A. Bellefleur, Ph.D.*

*Director, RTTY*

The official opening of a special News Center for the deaf community in Pennsylvania will be held March 17 at the Pennsylvania School for the Deaf. For the first time anywhere in the world, the deaf are receiving a printed news service designed especially for them in their homes by way of radio telecommunications.

Radio teletype communication is radio for the deaf citizen. Called RTTY, it is simply an extension of the TTY, or teletype concept, utilizing teleprinters in the place of voice telephones and allowing the deaf to communicate with each other over distances.

Radio TTY adds another dimension to this system by actually broadcasting the teletype code over the airways, making it possible for an infinite number of deaf citizens to simultaneously see world events and feature news on their own teletype machine in their own homes.

RTTY is simply word information that is typed out on a special, modified teleprinter located in a studio. Events of interest to the deaf are created on these machines, using a specially-coded punched tape. Once complete, the tapes are fed through another device that changes the punched holes in the tape to a series of audible tones. These signals are transmitted by telephone lines to a nearby radio studio, where they are mixed with a high frequency sub-carrier that is transmitted out over a thirty to fifty mile radius. By turning on a specially-tuned, home radio receiver located near the teletype machine, the "listener's" TTY will respond to the signals it receives, accurately reproducing in words the messages prepared in the studio many miles away.

This remarkable achievement, created at The Pennsylvania School for the Deaf in Philadelphia, expands the communication potential of the deaf by bringing them into the world of radio media. Labeled "Captioned Radio", this system is the most exciting breakthrough since the development of the TTY itself in 1964.

At The Pennsylvania School for the Deaf, where RTTY for the deaf community began, special staff and deaf students work together to develop programs for the deaf citizens of the Delaware Valley region. Each day UPI brings the happenings of the world to a miniature studio where it is evaluated and edited by the students. At the same time, other students are creating feature news, while the deaf community itself supplies items of social interest. At the present time, there are two broadcasts per day with plans currently underway for additional transmissions during the early morning and evening hours.



Names, addresses and the region of origin are as follows:

## DELEGATES

### Northeastern Pennsylvania

Mr. Carl F. Odhner  
5470 Oswego Drive  
RD #6  
Bethlehem, PA 17817

Mr. Robert Deiley  
121 N. Scenic Street  
Allentown, PA 18104

Mr. Joseph Margalis  
67 E. Thomas Street  
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18705

### Southeastern Pennsylvania

Ms. Bonnie Gellman  
Apt. 807  
3701 Conshohocken  
Philadelphia, PA 19131

Mr. George H. Hibbler  
2008 Widener Place  
Philadelphia, PA 19138

Mr. Carl M. Moore  
2009 Medary Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19138

### Central Pennsylvania

Ms. Annetta Hawthorne  
42 N. Washington  
Gettysburg, PA 17325

Mr. Albert Whitenight  
RD #2  
Bloomsburg, PA 17815

### Western Pennsylvania

Ms. Geraldine Mangus  
RD #5, Box 107  
Apollo, PA 15613

Ms. Ruth Walter Brenyo  
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## UNITED CEREBRAL PALSY OF PENNSYLVANIA

1719 North Front Street  
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The Adult Handicapped Association (AHA) of United Cerebral Palsy of Pennsylvania will hold its annual AHA Conference and Bowling Tournament of the Hyatt House, Chatham Center in Pittsburgh on June 13, 14, 15, and 16. UCP of Pittsburgh will be hosting this year's conference.

It is estimated that nearly 400 members of the Adult Handicapped Association plan to attend and take part in the conference activities. Members will participate in a full day of workshops, the

annual bowling tournament, various social activities, election and installation of state AHA officers, all highlighted by the attractions of Pittsburgh.

Topics to be presented in the form of workshops will deal with the relevant issues of community housing for the physically handicapped, adaptive equipment, post-secondary educational opportunities, and sexuality. A session on officer and leadership training will also be part of the workshop agenda. Selected members of the AHA in addition to various professionals will be responsible for organizing and moderating the workshop-sessions.

The bowling tournament, a traditional event of the annual conference, enables bowlers to compete for trophies and

special recognition. A full day will be given to this intense competition.

A mix of AHA members and professionals met at the Chatham Center during the month of January to plan the conference program. Those attending the planning meeting were: Charla Perrone, Conference Program Committee Co-Chairman — UCP of Pittsburgh; Janet Evans, Conference Program Committee Co-Chairman — UCP of Pittsburgh; Deborah Paff, President of AHA Rivals Club — UCP of Pittsburgh; Frederick Enck, Executive Director — UCP of Pittsburgh; Joseph Weimer, Rehabilitation Counselor — UCP of Pittsburgh; Kathy Gneiting, Adult Program Coordinator — UCP of Southwestern Pennsylvania; John Francis, representative from AHA Jetsetters Club — Southwestern Pennsylvania; Evelyn Stypula, President of the AHA; and Vivian Begali, Director of Adult Handicapped Programs — UCP of Pennsylvania.

## EASTER SEAL CHAIRMANSHIP NAMED

Rosalie J. Hixon, R. D. # 1, Spring City, has accepted the 1977 Chairmanship of the Easter Seal Society for Crippled Children and Adults of Pennsylvania. She is a past president and the originator of the Central Penn Wheelers Wheelchair Sports Team and is Chairwoman of the Pennsylvania Wheelchair Athletic Association.

Rosalie has been active in wheelchair sports for the past 14 years and has been awarded over 250 medals and 75 trophies in wheelchair competition. Talented in many sports activities, she was the first disabled woman to complete the Red Cross 50 mile Physical Fitness Swim and holds many National and International sports records including three National records in javelin, shot put and precision javelin. She participated in the 1964 International Paralympics held for wheelchair contestants in Japan and was personally congratulated by former Governor William Scranton for her outstanding performance.

In 1974, Rosalie was elected to both the Regional and National Wheelchair Sports Hall of Fame and remains the only female given this honor. She holds the record of most medals won by an individual in competition in a single meet, winning 14 medals from 18 events entered.

Born in Fulton County, she contracted polio at an early age and has been confined to a wheelchair since that time. She attended the Johnstown Rehabilitation Center and it was there that she became interested in wheelchair sports. She is now employed by the Upjohn Company, King of Prussia. Rosalie has enthusiasm for sports and is just as enthusiastic about helping other disabled people achieve success in life.



# THE GRAND STAND

GOVERNOR'S COMMITTEE FOR SERVICES  
TO THE HANDICAPPED

MARCH, 1977



Governor Milton J. Shapp "Kick Off" speaker  
at Pa. Conference on Handicapped Individuals  
Dec. 1976

## GOVERNOR NAMES DELEGATES

Governor Milton J. Shapp appointed the 16 delegates and 16 alternate delegates to the White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals to be held in Washington, D. C. at the Sheraton-Park Hotel May 23-27, 1977. The appointment of these 32 people was from 59 nominees selected at the Governor's Conference on Handicapped Individuals in December. In appointing these delegates the Governor complimented the Co-Directors of the Pennsylvania Governor's Conference on Handicapped Individuals Mr. and Mrs. Carl F. Odhner and the Planning Committee for the outstanding three-day conference where approximately 1,000 people gathered to address the problems of the handicapped. He went on to say that the thousand people consisted of

nearly 300 delegates, participating observers from all walks of life, volunteers and exhibitors.

The 16 delegates that are going to the White House Conference at the expense of HEW will be attending the largest meeting of persons with disabilities ever to assemble in the history of our country. It is anticipated the total attendance at the White House Conference will be persons of which at least 50% will be handicapped. These delegates will be representing the handicapped population of Pennsylvania and will be involved in workshop sessions addressing themselves to the five major concern areas that affect the lifestyle of the handicapped in the Commonwealth.

These five major concerns are Health, Economic, Social, Educational and Special (including special concerns of the aging, minorities and veterans).

THE GRAND STAND-PLANNER  
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Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17101  
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